

## **Winchester Chapter -NRHS**

### **Minutes of February 11, 2023, meeting**

In the classrooms of the Calvary Church of the Brethren in Winchester.

The Chapter's Secretary, John Foote, is unable to attend meetings temporarily due to a family emergency. **These minutes were taken by Alex Mayes**, with slight editing by Carl Stephanus

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Clark at 7:30 PM, attended by 18 members and 6 guests.

**Treasurer's (and Membership Agent) report by** Treasurer Carl Stephanus:

Carl stated his annual report was emailed to members on Feb. 8, 2023.

As Mike confirmed no caboose expenses will be needed for 2023, the 2023 budget as submitted was approved by the members present.

The only financial activity since the last meeting was the collection of dues and reservation payments for the upcoming banquet.

Also, Jeff & Anita Summerlin (from Lake Frederick, VA) are new members.

Our membership has doubled in the past three years to a total of 41 members.

And for 2023 we have had 100% membership renewal.

**Elections:** Candidates for office for the evening's voting were as follows:

President: Van Welton

Vice President: open, unless someone steps forward

Secretary: John Foote

Treasurer: Carl Stephanus

National Representative: James Cashell

Motion made, seconded, and approved that the four candidates are hereby elected.

**Old Business:** Van Welton summarized details of the Chapter's **Banquet** which will be held at the Calvary Church of Brethren on March 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. The program will be presentations provided by representatives from three local regional lines: Winchester and Western, Buckingham Branch, and the Shenandoah Valley

Railroad. Questions will be entertained following each presentation. Van emphasized that we must be friendly to all the guests and speakers. He also asked members to give him written questions for the speakers, so the speakers can prepare for the evening. We are not seeking to surprise them with "gotcha you" like questions.

**March 4<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for sending banquet payments.** At \$20.00 a person the chapter will be barely made even on the banquet. Van asked members to widely broadcast the banquet on social media and other outlets to maximize attendance.

Several members (and some more are needed) volunteered to be hosts at the tables. Each table will represent a specific railroad. Need a centerpiece for each table, such as a model train locomotive or car, an old timetable, etc. Each table will have 10 guests.

**New Business:** A brief discussion concerned the program for the **April 8 meeting** (in the classrooms again) and the program selection will be announced in the next High Iron.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

The **evening's program** by Daniel Simon was titled "The Beauty of Norfolk Southern from Below and Above". It included excellent images of various Norfolk Southern and Amtrak trains taken from ground level and from above by his drone. Scenes from Norfolk Southern's B Line, Washington District and Pittsburgh Line were shown.